

NOT A BIT OF EVIDENCE WAS THERE TO SHOW CASE OF MURDER YOUNG GIRL WHO RAN AWAY FROM GIRLS' HOME LEADS LIFE OF SIN

Ray Wicks and Hale Drummond were completely exonerated Saturday morning before Justice M. S. Riley of the charge of having murdered William Coon the night of September 23.

As previously stated Coon's dead body was found at midnight lying alongside the Baltimore & Ohio tracks a short distance east of the Barnes crossing at the "Y." Wicks and Drummond were arrested a day or so afterward and jailed charged with murdering him.

From the evidence adduced before the magistrate, there is every reason to believe that he was struck by a train and killed. The testimony of those familiar with the injuries emphasizes that belief.

The hearing was commenced in the court house at 7 o'clock Friday evening. The court room was crowded with people and much interest was shown.

Attorney J. E. Law appeared for the prosecution and Messrs. Sperry & Sperry for the defense.

O. A. Wethrell saw Coon, Drummond and others in Boyle's saloon between 11 and 11:15 o'clock that night, but Coon and Drummond were not associating together. He did not see Wicks. Wethrell went home at 11:15 and thinks he saw the Pittsburgh flyer going out. Coon was much under the influence of liquor and Drummond was about the same, though not noisy like Coon.

Will McLaughlin, the bartender there, saw Coon in the saloon and Drummond and others. They were all drinking and talking. He did not know what started the noise first. Some were jumping and talking. There were a few words between Drummond and Coon. Drummond wanted Coon to leave with McLaughlin the change of \$5, after paying for the drinks. But he declined to do so, saying he was able to take care of his own money. He closed the saloon at 11:20 and went to the barber shop, leaving Coon inside and Drummond outside. John Boyle was in the saloon with Coon. When he closed he told Drummond to go out and he did so quietly, saying all right. But before that Drummond had one hand on Coon's neck and a beer bottle in the other which was drawn, but Drummond was acting the fool just as he had seen him do many times.

G. D. Gumm first saw Coon in front of Walter Taylor's store as he was coming to the city and at Boyle's saloon as he returned home at 9:30 o'clock. Clarence Matheny was in Gumm's buggy with him. At the saloon there was a crowd and Gumm could not get by. Coon staggered out and wanted to ride home with Gumm. When refused the privilege, he said he would ride even if the buggy were loaded down with six men. Coon had staggered out with a tall man with smooth face and another with a heavy mustache holding him up, and he could not walk. Gumm did not see Wicks.

Seymour Wadsworth told the justice that he saw Coon, Drummond and others in the saloon and that he left for home at 9:30 o'clock. He treated both to beer but heard no conversation between Drummond and Coon.

Pearl Allen being called said he did not see Drummond either day or night. Allen works at the Junction house nearby.

James Green, yard brakeman on engine 1693 saw the body but did not recognize it. A yard crew was going up to the "Y" at 12 or 12:30 for supper. The engine ran backward and he was standing on the front of it. He saw the body off the track 5 or 6 feet, but they did not stop. At the "Y" they got off and he and James Kelley walked back and found the man lying on his face and shoulders. They turned the body over and then went to the Glen Elk hotel and telephoned for the undertaker. No one was there until they got back. Four or five persons came down the track, and said they were on the way home. Drummond and Wicks came to the scene. The fellow's clothes were in good shape but his hat was some distance east of the body. They found papers and money scattered around, picked them up and placed them on the body. Wicks did not arrive until 1 o'clock and Drummond did not come with him, but was already there. The body was warm and limber when they found it.

John Boyle testified that he saw Coon and Drummond in the saloon, and, when the bartender closed at 11:20 Drummond was out and Coon in the saloon with Boyle. He did not see Drummond do anything out

of the ordinary when drinking except to lay one hand on Coon's neck and have a beer bottle in the other raised. When he closed the saloon and went toward home Coon started up the road home and Drummond lay on the block in front of the store. He was still lying there fifteen or twenty minutes after that, when Boyle went to bed. He did not see Wicks.

James Kelley, brakeman, corroborated Brakeman Green in all particulars, and said in addition that Drummond did not come until 1 o'clock, or about 15 or 20 minutes after they had returned to the body. He said they gathered up \$4.35 in money and laid it on the body.

Dr. C. R. Ogden told about he and Dr. H. V. Varner making an autopsy, after the body had been prepared for burial. They found a bruise or scrape on the forehead extending half way back on the head. A wound on the left side of the chin, like a cut. Several ribs on the left side were broken near the chest and back bone. There was a general cave-in of the chest. The neck was dislocated and there was a scalp wound. There were also two marks on the front breast. He was of the opinion that Coon had been struck with something heavy and that a railroad tender might have struck him. He believed that such wounds could be inflicted by an engine.

Dr. Varner stated that there was a very heavy breaking of ribs and there were two small indentures in the chest six inches apart and over the heart. These were the size of a thumb. The cut on the left jaw looked like it was torn. It was 2 1-2 or 3 inches long. The forehead was badly bruised and there was a scalp wound farther back. The neck was broken, etc. It was his honest opinion a train or locomotive had killed Coon, and that the bruises were the result of the body falling.

Wesley White told about he and Coon being partners, and that they settled here that evening after getting a county order cashed. Of the amount Coon got \$31. Of this he spent \$3.50 for a pair of pants, \$1.75 for a hat and also bought a shirt, collar and tie. White did not see either Wicks or Drummond until about two o'clock, when Drummond came to his house, awoke him, told him about Coon being killed and asked him to go and tell Coon's family. Drummond was nervous and sat on the edge of the bed while at White's home. Drummond told him about making a fire with waste, when the railroad men declined to leave a lantern there with the body.

Frank Albright did not know any thing about it except that Drummond had stated that he saw lights down the track, asked what it meant and, when told a man was killed, remarked that he would go down and see, fearing it might be Ray Wicks as he had gone down that way. He heard Drummond say Miltstead, who was looking after Coon's papers, knew all about it.

N. G. Stealey told about the wounds on the body, being the undertaker in the case, and was of the opinion that a train struck and killed Coon.

Claude Westfall, a member of the Coon family, testified that Coon, when he went home that evening, gave Mrs. Coon \$15, a son and daughter \$1 each and another daughter half a dollar.

John Shackelford, one of the yard crew, saw Coon lying there, and though having known him a long time, did not recognize the body as that of Coon.

There were several other witnesses, whose evidence was in no way material, and when the state rested, the magistrate announced his decision acquitting the accused men. They were then released from custody.

Trespasser Arrested
Charles Ellis, who was arrested by B. & O. Officer O. S. Cole Friday for trespassing on the company's property had a hearing before Magistrate Gordon this morning. Ellis boarded a passenger train at Salem and locked himself in the lavatory of one of the cars. He refused to come out until the train reached this city. He was sent to jail for fifteen days in default of the payment of his fine.

GANG OF HOBOES INFEST THE "Y"

A gang of from 50 to 60 hoboies have been camping in the vicinity of the "Y" for the past month. They use the banks of the West Fork river for their summer outing, and the railroad sand house as a rendezvous to concoct their villainies. They live to beg, borrow and steal, as the people living in that neighborhood can testify. They have grown to such proportions and been allowed to carry on their depredations with impunity for such a length of time that they completely terrorize that vicinity. The hold-ups that are so common in that region are undoubtedly the work of this gang, and if they are not dispersed soon there will be more murder mysteries. Familiarly and humorously they are called "tramps" or "hoboes" but the fact is they are nothing in the world but thieves and murderers, and a menace to the community and the quicker they move on the better.

P. O. S. OF A. MEETING HELD LAST NIGHT

The Patriotic Order Sons of America, of this city, are coming to the front rapidly among the fraternal orders of the city. Since they have added a program to the regular order of business, the meetings are much better attended and are more interesting. At their meeting in the Eagles' hall Friday night, the program was very interesting, assisted by the following numbers:

Solo Edward Laubenstein
Humorous recitation, Dr. E. A. Teets
Reading, "Bill Nye" J. O. T. Tidler
Recitation President Steele
Impromptu addresses:
..... L. K. Richards
..... J. W. Dodge
..... Dr. W. R. Andrews

It is the general purpose of the officers of the order to have this new feature at the weekly meetings, except when there is too much initiatory work that time will not permit. There is every prospect for having the state organization making its headquarters in Clarksburg, and to this end is the local order working with the assistance of the Wilsonburg lodge there will be little doubt that the Grand Lodge can be secured for this city.

FOOT BALL TEAM HAS ORGANIZED

The C. C. A. C. foot ball team met in the parlors of the Social club last night and organized as follows: Richard West, manager; Chas. Ross, captain; Jas. Gray, secretary. Line-up: Richard Lowry; Steve Matthey, fb; Eugene Craven, lb; Robert Brown, lg; Chas. Ross, lb; Evid Banks, rfb; John Robinson, rg; Robert Lewis, le; Chas. Ogden, re; Carl Beckwith, qb; Fred Banks, rg; John Nelson, Lawrence Ogden, Hugh Washington, Walter Dangelield. There will be another meeting at 8 o'clock Monday night at 8 o'clock at 410 Main street. Practice on the old fair grounds every day at 2 p. m.

Y. M. C. A. MEETING TONIGHT

At the Young Men's Christian Association tonight will occur the first of a series of popular Saturday night informals. As this is the first of the season it will take the place of the usual opening. A large number of tickets have been sent about the city and a large attendance is looked for. Ladies and gentlemen invited.

U. C. T. MEETING TONIGHT

The United Commercial Travelers will meet tonight, at 8 p. m. in the Smith hall, on Main street. A large attendance is desired this evening as several candidates will be introduced into the order, and other business of importance transacted.

ROUTINE BUSINESS DONE

Mostly routine matters were transacted at the regular meeting of the city council Friday night.

Attending the session were Councilmen McAndrew, Kearns, Kelley, Cork, Hart, Hess, Smith and Goff. The reading of the minutes was dispensed with.

Bills were read and allowed as follows:
B. & O. R. R. Co. \$ 563 24
Williams & Davison Co. 5,879 85
Davis-Hornor Co. 1,683.50
Street pay roll 261 46
Water works pay roll 169 07

A letter had been received by the city attorney from the Fordyce people in New York in regard to the old Fordyce building on Syeamore street, stating that they would look after the same. The matter was referred to the city attorney to take up the matter with the Fordyce attorney for action by Oct. 12, else the city would proceed to remove the building.

An order passed that all persons building get street grades.

N. B. McCarty's petition for the extension of the water main to Kelley hill was reported to the water and street committee jointly.

The petition of Lincoln Watson for police authority was referred to the mayor.

The street committee recommended that Mulberry street be extended to the Hart property without cost to the city, upon permission of the property owners.

The action of the Harrison County Medical Society asking that the council pass an ordinance restricting the sale of narcotics, cocaine and morphine. The matter was referred to the ordinance committee for investigation.

J. C. Frum was given a permit to build a house on Poplar street, costing \$300.

A. C. Villers was granted permission to erect a frame dwelling on Cain street at a cost of \$3,500.

James Renshaw got permission to build a dwelling on Dale avenue, costing \$1,500.

A permit was granted to Maggie Waldo for a frame building on Cain street.

A. H. Doman Killed

Andrew Hampton Doman, aged about 30 years, who boarded with Mrs. Elizabeth F. Chestnut, Fourth street and York Place, Cumberland, Md., was killed last night on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad in the vicinity of Sand Patch. He was a brakeman. His body was brought here and taken to the undertaking rooms of G. Stanley Butler and was later removed to his boarding house. The breast of the dead man was crushed in, his left shoulder broken and his left leg stripped entirely of the skin. Mr. Doman came from the vicinity of Moorefield, W. Va. He leaves a brother, who resides at Headsville, W. Va., and a sister, a resident of Washington, D. C.

J. E. Doman, of this city, is a brother of the deceased. He leaves tonight to attend the funeral, which occurs Monday at Doman, Hardy county, W. Va.

MUSIC AT THE WALDO

Wells' orchestra, under the direction of Prof. Emil Walters, will render the following program at the Waldo, Sunday evening, Oct. 8:

Weller's March F. H. Losey
Pique Dame, overture F. V. Zuppe
Ave Verum Corpus W. A. Mozart
Santiago, waltzes A. Corbin
Gems of Steven Foster Th. M. Tobina

The Prince of Pilsen, selection G. Luders
In a Pagoda, characteristic J. H. Bratton
L' Amale, overture A. Boullion
Little Johnny Jones, march Geo. M. Cohan

CHURCH COMPLETED AT GRASSELLI

The new Lutheran church at Grasselli is now about completed. The dedication which was intended to be Sunday had to be postponed on account of the factories not being able to get the pews made in time. It is much regretted that this delay had to be made as the people were looking forward to getting into the new church at once. The dedication will now be on the first Sunday in November, if nothing prevents.

The church is a most beautiful one of 28x49 feet, with a primary Sunday school room. It has a tower of 50 feet and is very nicely finished on the inside. It is a credit to the new town and the people should feel proud that they have such a house of worship. This is the only church building in the town, and it will doubtless prove a great blessing to the community. It was a great undertaking for so few members, and they deserve great credit for their noble work.

MISSIONARY CONVENTION TO BE AT WESTMINSTER

Rev. T. B. Yeakley, of the Lutheran church, will leave next Tuesday for Westminster, Md., to attend the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary convention, where he is to deliver an address on Home Missions. He will be out of town for over two weeks and during this time there will be no services at the Lutheran Mission. Rev. Yeakley, while away will attend the semi-annual conference at Frostburg and also the annual meeting of Synod, at Cumberland, Md. There are about 125 ministers who are members of the district Synod. Important business will be transacted and the mission work will doubtless receive quite a great deal of attention. Mr. Yeakley is the Synodical Missionary and will make an encouraging report concerning the work of their church throughout West Virginia and Maryland.

UNION MEETINGS BEGIN

Tomorrow at the Central Presbyterian church President Herbert Welch, D.D., of Ohio Wesleyan, will initiate the winter meetings of the Y. M. C. A. These meetings will be in the form of union mass meetings with the various churches of this city. The month of October they will be held in the Central Presbyterian church, across from the association. Tomorrow the service will begin at 2:30 p. m. sharp. All men are most cordially invited to be present. Prof. Iverson will render a cornet solo, this with the chorus songs by the men's voices will make a most attractive meeting.

Broadus Beats Philippi

The Broadus football team journeyed overland to Philippi yesterday, and met the strong organization at that place. Two fifteen-minute halves were played before an audience of 2,000 spectators. Philippi went down in defeat, the score being 15 to 0 in favor of Broadus. The score was made on downs, one in the first and two in the second, as the condition of the grounds made goal kicking an impossibility. It was a clean game from start to finish, the features being the line bucking of Heatherly for Philippi, and the superb work of Broadus' back field.

In the second half Philippi played their star right end, Woodburn, who proved to be of the "ice-wagon" variety, the first down being made around his end. The Broadus boys all report a good time and fine treatment by the opposing team and citizens of Philippi.

Oil Still Soaring

Pennsylvania and West Virginia oil is quoted today at \$1.56 per barrel.

Wardman McPherson, of Johnstown, spent the day in the city.

SMITH'S CASE BEING HEARD

The hearing of Carl Smith for alleged rape on the person of Emma Cain, who swears her age to be less than 14 years, was begun at two o'clock this afternoon before Squire M. S. Riley with four or five hundred persons present. Some thirty witnesses were sworn for both sides. Emma Cain was the first witness. She charged him on the stand with the crime, and was still on the stand at press time.

TEACHERS MEET IN DISTRICT INSTITUTE

The first district meeting of the teachers of Coal and Clark districts was held in the school house at Adamston Saturday afternoon, attended by a number of teachers in the two districts, as well as the Clarksburg district. M. D. Teter, president, presided, and Miss Verna Bartlett was secretary. A good program was observed.

COMMITTEE HAS GONE TO THE CONFERENCE

The committee appointed by Goff Methodist church to await on the conference at Morgantown to ask for the return of Dr. S. K. Arbuthnot to this church another year has gone to the conference to discharge its official duty. The committee consists of Judge C. W. Lynch, H. W. Harner and Dr. E. N. Flowers.

FREE EMBROIDERY LESSONS

On Oct. 2 Miss Tierney started her class in embroidery at the Parsons-Souders Co., which numbers at present 50 in attendance. Miss Tierney will be here another week and ladies desirous of taking lessons should make applications immediately. As Miss Tierney is well known here sufficient to say advantages derived by so thoroughly experienced a teacher should be appreciated by the public. To combat a report given out by another store in this city that they would have a representative from the same firm to give free lessons in embroidery and art, the Parsons-Souders Co. wish to emphatically announce that this is not true, that they had a letter from said firm stating that they would not permit any one from their concern to give lessons in the city of Clarksburg during this season or the year of 1905.

Abies' Trial Monday

Riley Ables, who is charged with receiving stolen goods from the Moore gang of desperadoes, and with inciting them to steal, was arrested today. His trial was set for two o'clock Monday afternoon in Magistrate Gordon's court. Ables gave bond for his appearance.

Remodeling The Model

The Model Cafe, W. S. Griffin, proprietor, is undergoing a complete renovation from floor to ceiling. Fresh paint everywhere, wall, ceiling and woodwork, new electric lights, bar fixtures, etc. This well known place from the manner in which it is conducted, and its neat, attractive appearance is well named the Model.

Jailed For Board Bill

William McClung was arrested today upon a warrant sworn out by A. C. Heinzman, charging him with intent to defraud Heinzman of a \$17.00 board bill. McClung was given a hearing before Magistrate Gordon and confessed. He was sentenced to thirty days in jail and a fine of \$25, which he was unable to pay.

Park Car Schedule

Commencing next Monday the street car to Union park will run only on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

Daisy Jordan, who was arrested in a crazy drunken condition and was given ten days in jail, was in police court again Friday evening at Parkersburg, being mixed up as a witness in two cases. The trials revealed a disgraceful state of affairs. While the girl is by no means a specimen of seduced and victimized innocence she is a glowing example of youthful depravity, and it was shown that she has been carousing with a number of men who ran a narrow risk of incurring a trip to the pen by reason of that fact. A doctor's examination not only revealed that the girl is suffering from a loathsome disease, but that she is probably under fourteen years of age, which fact, if it could be legally established, would make these men guilty of constructive criminal assault.

The girl, herself, says she is about sixteen. She was from in Milton, Cabell county. For three years she was an inmate of the Girls' Industrial Home at Salem. She ran away from there a little over a year ago and it seems that not much of an effort was made to recapture her. The Humane Society took her up, however, and secured her a home with a good family in this city. That was about six months ago. On Sunday, while on the way to church, she made another successful get away and disappeared, presumably going to Huntington, where she says she has been staying for some time with her mother and sister.

Her mother's husband is one John Jordan, who is said to be a preacher. The girl says she doesn't know where he is and doubts about his being her father, anyhow. She has been "rooming" at Gertie Anderson's, on lower Ann street. She says she gave Gertie half of "what she made" for the room.

The girl seemed totally devoid of any moral sense, and utterly unable to realize that there was anything wrong in her course of life. Her story of the deepest degradation came out in hints, which brought not one blush of shame to her youthful cheeks. She owned up to having been disgracefully drunk, the night before, and laughed heartily over it. With it all, she was bright enough, gave intelligent and ready answers, and told a remarkably straight story which bore the stamp of truth. There were no reservations. She didn't seem to feel the need of any. The first case was that of the city against William Clengdening, proprietor of the Ohio saloon, for setting to a minor.

Daisy Jordan—this mere child in short dresses—was the first witness. She said she had helped empty two half-pint bottles of whiskey at the Gertie Anderson house on Thursday evening, in company with Custer Dye, a barber, and Jot Bradford, a railroad. The latter had bought the liquor. John Clake came in and ordered Dye out and they had a fight, but this was later and that is another story. So drunk that she could scarcely walk, the girl afterward went to the Ohio saloon.

"I went back into the wine room," said she, "and somebody brought me a drink of pop. I told 'em I wasn't drinkin' pop, and throwed the bottle at him. I must-a got in bad, for the bartender tried to put me out. No, I didn't get any whiskey then. But me and Goldie Burns got a ten cent growler of beer at the back door of the Ohio saloon last Tuesday evening. It was brought in by a nigger, and Goldie said he was the porter."

The charge was dismissed. Then came up the cases of John Clark and Custer Dye, who were charged with fighting, and who were tried together. The fight was plainly over the Jordan girl. After Clark had ordered Dye out of the girl's room, the two had met at the Ohio saloon. The quarrel had been renewed, and Clark seems to have been the aggressor. He struck Dye in the head with a beer glass, shattering the glass. The broken glass was exhibited in court and Dye had his forehead court-plastered. Dye swore that he did not strike Clark at all.

The men were fined. An effort will be made to have the Jordan girl sent back to the Industrial Home. In the meantime, she goes to jail.